

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 01417 281701Z

70

ACTION EUR-12

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R 281630Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO /SECSTATE WASHDC 1184

INFO USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1417

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, SP

SUBJ: PROPOSED DECORATION FOR LT. GEN. SALVADOR SAF

REF: STATE 39735

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES IN ABSENCE OF ANY REAL EVIDENCE, SPECULATION CONCERNING SALVADOR CONTAINED IF REFERENCED PARA 2 REFTEL SHOULD BE DISREGARDED. SOURCE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, KNOWN TO BE PIQUED AT SALVADOR FOR PREVIOUS POLICIES WHEN LATTER WAS AIR MINISTER.

2. SALVADOR HAS BEEN POWERFUL ADVOCATE OF U.S. INTERESTED IN PAST, E.G. YOM KIPPUR WAR WHEN SPANISH AIR FORCE UNDER HIS DIRECTION DECLINED TO RAISE DIVISIVE ISSUES ABOUT US USE OF SPANISH BASES. AT SAME TIME HE ENJOYS CONSIDERABLE PRESTIGE BECAUSE OF HIS CIVIL WAR EXPLOITS (ONE OF LEADING ACES) AND HIS RECENT TOUR AS AIR MINISTER. THUS SALVADOR IS KEY PERSONALITY TO INFLUENCE DIRECTLY SAF POLICIES FOR SOME YEARS TO COME.

3. EMBASSY THEREFORE BELIEVES U.S. INTERESTES WOULD BE ENHANCED BY PRESENTATION OF AWARD. IF DEPT CONCURS, DAO WILL SOLICIT NECESSARY APPROVAL FOR AWARD FROM GOS. EATON

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Message Attributes

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